

*Council address:* Pacific Fishery Management Council, 2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224, Portland, OR 97201.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Julie Walker, Fishery Management Analyst; telephone: (503) 326-6352.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The GAP, the GMT, and the Groundfish Subcommittee of the SSC will meet jointly Monday, March 2, 1998, at 1 p.m. through Wednesday, March 4, at 10 a.m. The GMT will continue meeting Wednesday, March 4, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Salmon Subcommittee and the Economic Subcommittee of the SSC will meet Tuesday, March 3, at 8 a.m. through Wednesday, March 4, at 10 a.m., and the full SSC will meet Wednesday, March 4, at 10 a.m. through Thursday, March 5, at 5 p.m.

The purpose of the joint GAP, GMT, and Groundfish Subcommittee of the SSC's meeting is to discuss groundfish management and research issues, including but not limited to draft plan amendments to the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (including new definitions, essential fish habitat designation, overfishing and maximum sustainable yield control rules, and bycatch provisions), the proposed stock assessment review process, capacity reduction, and fixed gear sablefish management. These groups will address priorities for groundfish research on Wednesday, March 4, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Wednesday, March 4, the GMT will hold a work session to revise the draft amendment documents and materials related to the joint meeting.

The Salmon Subcommittee of the SSC will review the Klamath Ocean Harvest Model, Amendment 13 to the Salmon Plan, new Oregon hooking mortality figures, draft plan amendments to the Salmon Plan, possible revisions to the harvest modeling for Sacramento fall chinook, and other items scheduled on the agenda for the full SSC meeting.

The Economic Subcommittee of the SSC will discuss the economic data plan, the groundfish capacity reduction plan, and other items scheduled on the agenda of the full SSC meeting.

The full SSC will discuss the review of 1997 salmon fisheries and summary of 1998 stock abundance estimates, salmon estimation procedures and methodologies, draft plan amendments to the draft coastal pelagic species management plan, the Oregon coastal natural coho rebuilding analysis and progress report, groundfish final provisions for 1998 primary fixed gear sablefish season, groundfish capacity reduction program, and the groundfish

stock assessment review process for 1998.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before these groups for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues will not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice.

#### Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Mr. Eric Greene at (503) 326-6352 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: February 9, 1998.

**Gary. Matlock,**

*Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 020698B]

#### Marine Mammals

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Issuance of permit.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Brendan P. Kelly, Ph.D., Juneau Center, School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, University of Alaska Fairbanks, 11120 Glacier Highway, Juneau, AK 99801 (Co-investigators: Dr Douglas Wartzok and Lori Quakenbush) (File No. 350-1434), has been issued a permit to take ringed seals (*Phoca hispida*) for the purposes of scientific research.

**ADDRESSES:** The permit and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and

Director, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668 (907/586-7721).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ruth Johnson, 301/713-2289.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On December 17, 1997, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (62

FR 66054) that a request for a scientific research permit to take (i.e., harass) ringed seals had been submitted by the above-named individual. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) and the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216).

Dated: February 6, 1998.

**Ann D. Terbush**

*Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 020698A]

#### Marine Mammals

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Receipt of applications.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that applications have been submitted in due form for a permit or the amend an existing permit to take marine mammals for purposes of scientific research.

**DATES:** Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before March 16, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** The applications and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices: Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289);

Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668 (907/586-7221); and

Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way, NE, BIN C15700, Seattle, WA 98115-0070 (206/526-6150).

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on these applications should be mailed to the Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on these particular requests would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301) 713-0376, provided